

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SR-02 ORM-01 /076 W

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R 151626Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2797

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PO, AO

SUBJ: FURTHER PORTUGUESE REACTION TO ANGOLAN TROUBLES

REF: LISBON 2692

1. PCP ON ANGOLA: MAY 14 STATEMENT BY POLITICAL COMMITTEE  
OF PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY BLAMED NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL  
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AGENTS OF REACTION FOR CREATING AN UNSTABLE, CONFUSING, AND

ALARMIST SITUATION IN ANGOLA BY USE OF TERRORIST ACTS. PCP CLAIMED REACTIONARY GOAL IS TO DEFEAT REVOLUTIONARY AIMS OF BOTH ANGOLAN PEOPLE AND PORTUGUESE REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS. ACCORDING TO COMMUNIQUE, REACTIONARY FORCES WANT TO PROVOKE GOP INTO SENDING PORTUGUESE ARMY ON WIDESPREAD MILITARY ACTIONS IN ANGOLA WHICH IN THE END WOULD SERVE NEITHER ANGOLAN NOR PORTUGUESE INTERESTS. STATEMENT NOTED NEW DIFFICULTIES ARISING FROM REFUGEE RETURN AND WARNED WORKERS OF REACTIONARY ATTEMPT TO EXPLOIT SITUATION. PCP ALSO REITERATED ITS SOLIDARITY WITH MPLA.

2. VASCO LOURENCO COMMENTS: DURING BREAK IN MAY 14 MEETING OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, SPOKESMAN CAPT. VASCO LOURENCO TOLD NEWSMEN THAT CONDUCT OF PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION IS INEXTRICABLY RELATED TO SUCCESSFUL DECOLONIZATION, PARTICULARLY IN ANGOLA. LOURENCO CRITICIZED POLITICAL PARTIES FOR NOT CONCERNING THEMSELVES WITH DECOLONIZATION AND LEAVING IMPORTANT SUBJECT ENTIRELY TO MILITARY. LOURENCO SAID GOP TROOPS IN ANGOLA FEEL ISOLATED AND WITHOUT SUPPORT AT HOME.

3. COUTINHO CLAIMS CONSPIRACY: FORMER GOP HIGH COMMISSIONER IN ANGOLA AND IMPORTANT FIGURE IN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO STATED IN INTERVIEW WITH "AFRIQUE-ASIE" THAT ANY FAILURE IN ANGOLAN DECOLONIZATION MAY BE BLAMED ON INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM. COUTINHO CLAIMED ZAIRE, PORTUGUESE ARMY, AND GENERAL SPINOLA WERE ALL INVOLVED IN VARIOUS CONSPIRACIES AGAINST HIM WHEN HE WAS IN ANGOLA. COUTINHO CLAIMED CONSPIRACY EXISTED TO PLACE HOLDEN ROBERTO IN CONTROL OF ANGOLA WITH ASSISTANCE FROM CHIPENDA AND SAVIMBI. COUTINHO ALSO ACCUSED CHIPENDA OF BEING A FORMER PIDE (PORTUGUESE SECRET POLICE) AGENT.

4. REFUGEES: PORTUGUESE PRESS CONTINUES TO GIVE WIDE-SPREAD COVERAGE TO INFLUX OF REFUGEES FROM ANGOLA. BY EVENING OF MAY 14, APPROXIMATELY 800 HAD ARRIVED BY REGULAR COMMERCIAL MEANS AND SPECIAL REFUGEE FLIGHT. IN TREATMENT OF INTERVIEWS WITH REFUGEES, MOST PRESS REPORTS, STRESSING CLIMATE OF INSECURITY IN ANGOLA, SHOW STRONG BIAS IN FAVOR OF MPLA.

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5. COMMENT: ACHIEVEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL DECOLONIZATION IN ANGOLA IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT AND IMPORTANT PROBLEM FOR GOP. DOMESTIC ATTENTION HAS NOT SERIOUSLY FOCUSED ON FATE OF AFRICAN TERRITORIES SINCE ALVOR SUMMIT IN JANUARY, BUT IS BEING RIVETED ON IT NOW.

6. IMPLICATIONS OF ANGOLAN PROBLEM FOR PORTUGAL FOLLOW

SEPTEL.  
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## Message Attributes

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